

Curriculum Vitae: Michael R. Lissack

14 Stratford Rd, Marblehead, MA 01945

617-710-9565
michael.lissack@gmail.com
<http://www.lissack.com>

Michael Lissack is the executive director of the Institute for the Study of Coherence and Emergence (ISCE), President of the American Society for Cybernetics (ASC), the ISCE Professor of Meaning in Organizations, Professor of Design and Innovation at Tongji University (Shanghai), a Visiting Fellow at the Hull University Business School, an Affiliate Member of the Center for Philosophy & History of Science at Boston University, and a serial entrepreneur. He was the first Walter J. Hickel Professor at Alaska Pacific University.

Dr. Lissack founded both a non-profit research institute and a charity for artists, launched an international Ph.D. program in corporate anthropology, has written half dozen books, been a successful Wall Street banker, and a candidate for public office. He has taught at a number of academic institutions in the US and Europe, run ten international conferences on the topics of explanation, complexity, management, health care, entanglement, and ethics and founded a successful academic journal (E:CO).

Worth Magazine recognized Dr. Lissack as one of "Wall Street's 25 Smartest Players" in 1999 and as one of the 100 Americans who have most influenced "how we think about money" in 2001. His most recent invention - an Internet research reference librarian replacement can be found at <http://epi-search.com>. Dr. Lissack's smartphone apps dealing with anti-bullying, sexual assault, and sexual consent are being used throughout the United States. See <http://empoweringvictims.org>. His most recent academic work can be found at <http://lissack.com> and <http://remedy101.com>

Education

DBA, Henley Management College through Brunel University (UK), 2000.
MBA, Yale School of Management 1981.
BA, Williams College (US) 1979.

Teaching and Research

Dr. Lissack is presently the ISCE Professor of Meaning in Organizations. He is also a Visiting Fellow at the Hull University Business School, Professor of Design and Innovation at Tongji University (Shanghai), where is also a member of the International Advisory Board, and an Affiliate Member of the Center for Philosophy & History of Science at Boston University. He has served as a Visiting Research Professor at the George Washington University and as the first Walter J. Hickel Professor at Alaska Pacific University. Previously he was a lecturer on business and public policy at the Central European University in Budapest. Since 1995, Dr. Lissack has also taught economics as a lecturer at Williams, research techniques at Henley, business strategy at IMD, complexity at LSE, and business ethics at the Rotterdam School of Management, Vanderbilt, and Keele. Dr. Lissack is a Ph.D. sponsor (committee member) for the University for Humanistics in the Netherlands, an external PhD examiner for Royal Holloway University London, Associate Editor of the journal *systems. connecting matter, life, culture and technology* and a member of the Editorial Boards of two journals, *She Ji: The Journal of Design, Economics, and Innovation* and *Kybernetes*.

Doctoral committees: Jacco van Uden (UVH, NL), Rene Brohm (Erasmus, NL), Krishna Anachdee (Royal Holloway, UK), Ben Berndt (UVH, NL), Samir Makerem (UVH, NL) and Terrence Letiche (Leicester).

Dr. Lissack has run ten international conferences on the topics of complexity, management, health care, entanglement, and ethics. One such conference was Modes of Explanation (Paris, France, May 2013 see <http://modesofexplanation.org>) Dr. Lissack frequently lectures on the topics of leadership, management, ethics, and complexity to both academic and business audiences in the US, Asia, and Europe. Dr. Lissack's ongoing research focuses on the interactions of complexity theory ideas with the philosophical concepts of emergence, coherence, models, and ethics. His most recent writings have focused on the concepts of coherence and context, what coherence is and how it can be achieved and maintained in a dynamic context-dependent networked setting. His latest books are focused on the nature of explanation (applied philosophy) and "better thinking." Dr. Lissack's newest book, *Modes of Explanation: Affordances for Action and Prediction* was published by Palgrave MacMillan in December, 2014. He is presently writing a book on the Western world's addiction to simplistic thinking entitled: *The Simplicity Epidemic*.

Dr. Lissack directs ISCE's efforts to tackle the social problems of sexual assault, sexual consent, and bullying. These efforts, which began in 2014, have produced a suite of mobile phone applications presently being rolled out at upwards of 100 institutions of higher education in the US and Canada. See <http://empoweringvictims.org>, <http://we-consent.org> and <http://thenoapp.org>.

Organizational Skills

Prior to 1995, Dr. Lissack was an investment banker where he assisted state and local governments in the United States with debt financings. His specialty was infrastructure project financings, from which he gained significant organizational acumen while running project teams of upwards of fifty professionals.

Beginning in 1995, Dr. Lissack organized a community of professionals and academics interested in the fields of complexity and management. That community became the basis of first, the Organization Science Related Programs unit of the New England Complex Systems Institute (1997-1999) and then (1999 to date) the Institute for the Study of Coherence and Emergence.

Since 1997, Dr. Lissack has organized several international conferences on complexity and management (Managing the Complex – Toronto, Fall 1998, Boston, Spring 1999, Boston, Fall 1999, Boston, Spring 2000, Naples, Florida, Winter 2002, Washington DC, Summer 2004) and on such topics as "Entanglement at the Human Scale" (Utrecht, Fall 2000), health care and ethics (Boston, Fall 1999), and knowledge management (Boston, Spring 2001). The conference "Modes of Education" (Paris, 2013) led to the recent book by the same name. In 2015, Dr. Lissack organized a conference on the "Nature of Experience" and in both 2015 and 2016, he organized conferences on "Second Order Science" and the concepts of "Action and Reflection."

At ISCE, Dr. Lissack developed an international consortium with members including the Imagination Lab (Lausanne), the University for Humanist Studies (Utrecht), the Cal Turner Program in Moral Leadership Vanderbilt University (Nashville), and the University of Technology Sydney. One outgrowth of this consortium was the DBA program in corporate anthropology offered by University for Humanist Studies in conjunction with ISCE and several European business schools. In 2011, ISCE narrowed its focus to Social Complexity Theory. Beginning in 2015, ISCE adopted three areas for its academic focus: Second-Order Science (see <http://secondorderscience.org>), What to do when Simplification and Reduction Fail (see <http://remedy101.com>), and Dealing with the Chasm of Dissonance (see <http://buberian.org>).

From 1999 to 2004, Dr. Lissack served as the editor-in-chief of *Emergence: A Journal of Complexity Issues in Organizations and Management*. Dr. Lissack founded the journal and arranged for its publication by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. As editor-in-chief, he has been responsible for gathering the journal's editorial board, promulgating its editorial policies, soliciting manuscripts, reviewing and promoting the journal. In 2004, *Emergence* merged with efforts from the UK Complexity Society and the Cynnefin Center, moving back to print publication and was retitled as *Emergence: Complexity and Organization*. The journal can be found at <http://emergence.org>

Dr. Lissack is the founder of several Internet start-ups and has been an active angel investor in several more. His original involvement with the Internet came as an investor and advisor to Tripod, a site aimed at university students, which became part of Lycos (now Terra/Lycos) in 1998. Dr. Lissack was the acting CFO (1998-99) and a board member of WebMind, Inc., a technology start-up company whose aim was to utilize the Internet to duplicate the human reasoning processes. While WebMind's efforts were ultimately unsuccessful, the start-up organization and failure experience contributed greatly to Dr. Lissack's education. In 1999, Dr. Lissack founded Collectively Sharper, an artificial intelligence business intelligence firm. Collectively Sharper was sold to Topical Net, Inc. in 2000.

In 2000, Dr. Lissack founded Knowledge Ventures Inc. Knowledge Ventures, Inc. is an educational tools software company which published the Learners Library – a research tool for academics. In 2007, he founded a real-estate marketing software firm market2buyers.com. Market2buyers earned the Small Business of the Year Award from ITFlorida that same year.

In 2010, Dr. Lissack founded an educational charity centered on the artists' community in Southwest Florida – Artists for Charity SWFL. Artists for Charity SWFL sponsored an artists' show and several art scholarship programs for area youth.

The American Society for Cybernetics elected Dr. Lissack to be its President for the term 2015 to 2017.

Public Policy and Investment Banking

Worth magazine recognized Dr. Lissack in 1999 as one of "Wall Street's 25 Smartest Players" and again in 2001 as one of the 100 Americans who have most influenced "how we think about money." He was Smith Barney's senior banker with overall responsibility for new product development, municipal derivatives, and the technical work produced by the firm's Public Finance Division. He trained more than 300 bankers who can be found at firms throughout the industry. He has served as a senior banker or financial advisor in more than thirty of the fifty American states and has financed more than \$35 billion of infrastructure projects for these clients. As the senior banker for these governmental entities, Dr. Lissack directed more than \$25 billion of investments, supervised their financial reporting, assisted in the design of their risk management and investment operations, and coordinated public education programs. He spent more than 13 years with Smith Barney, including eight as a managing director.

In the US, Dr. Lissack has acquired a national reputation as a whistle blower following his role in exposing the arcane world of municipal finance. In April 1998, the US Department of Justice announced that it had joined in a whistleblower suit Dr. Lissack filed regarding the repayment of nearly \$1 billion to the US Treasury. Since then, the US Government has recovered more than \$250 million as the result of Dr. Lissack's initiation of legal action. Since March 1995, he has been responsible for shedding light on

numerous illegal and unethical practices of Wall Street firms. His allegations have been involved in more than one dozen civil and criminal investigations by the SEC, IRS and the US Department of Justice and in the promulgation of IRS Revenue Procedure 96-41. The investment practices of many state and local governments throughout the United States have been revised as a result of Dr. Lissack's initiative.

Dr. Lissack is a regular contributor to the Huffington Post on politics and ethics. He has written editorials on the subject of whistle blowing for the *New York Times* and the *Los Angeles Times* and has been profiled in many international publications including *Fortune*, *Business Week*, the *Economist*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Financial Times*, and *USA Today*. In addition, he has spoken about whistle blowing on television, radio, and the lecture circuit. Dr. Lissack has devoted the bulk of monies derived from his lawsuits to charitable activities including ISCE and has endowed two professorships -- the Lissack Chair in *Social Responsibility and Personal Ethics* at Williams College, and the ISCE Professorship for *Meaning in Organizations* at the University for Humanist Studies in the Netherlands.

Dr. Lissack was a candidate for county commissioner in Collier County, Florida in 2002 and 2006. He is a frequent commentator on public affairs in Collier County. In 2010 he founded a charity for the support of local artists and art education, Artists for Charity SWFL. From 2008 to present, Dr. Lissack has been involved with major whistle blowing litigation involving several prominent SWFL real estate developers who are accused of defrauding residents and the US government of several hundred million dollars. Since 2014, he has also been involved with similar litigation aimed at a large US bank. During 2014, Dr. Lissack was involved in litigation which helped establish the precedents for the successful implementation of on-line only libraries.

Since 2015, Dr. Lissack has played a leading role in advocating the use of smartphone apps to help victims of bullying and sexual assault. In addition, he was one of the original pioneers for the idea of using smartphone apps to evoke the conversations required by the affirmative consent standard for sexual consent on college campuses in the United States. (See <http://empoweringvictims.org>) The anti-bullying app can be found at <http://thenoapp.org>, and the sexual consent/assault application suite can be found at <http://we-consent.org>.

Publications

"The Ethics of Simplicity" *She Ji: The Journal of Design, Economics, and Innovation* (forthcoming)

"Don't Be Addicted: The Oft-Overlooked Dangers of Simplification" *She Ji: The Journal of Design, Economics, and Innovation*, Vol. 2. No. 1, Spring 2016, 29-45

"Shed the Name to find Second-Order Success: Renaming Second-Order Cybernetics to Rescue its Essence", *Constructivist Foundations*, Vol. 11, No. 3., 470-473

"Finally Understanding EigenForms", *Constructivist Foundations*, Vol. 11, No. 3, 499-500

"Second-Order Science: Examining Hidden Presuppositions in the Practice of Science" *Foundations of Science* (2016). See <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10699-016-9483-x>

"What Second-order science reveals about scientific claims: Incommensurability, doubt, and a lack of explication. *Foundations of Science* (2016). See <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10699-016-9484-9>

“What I Learned from Ranulph: A Grateful Tribute to Ranulph Glanville” *Cybernetics and Human Knowing*. Vol. 22 (2015), nos. 2-3

“Meaningful Orthogonalities: A New Approach to Incommensurability” (forthcoming, submitted to the British Journal for the *Philosophy of Science*)

“As-If: Viewing Recognizant Transformative Experiences as a Natural Kind” (forthcoming, submitted to *Philosophy of Science*)

“Restoring Dialogue to Political Debate: A Buberian Approach” (forthcoming, submitted to *Critical Review*)

“What about Feedback?” (with Terrence Letiche) (forthcoming, submitted to *Electronic Journal of Communication*)

“Second-Order Science is Enacted Constructivism”, *Constructivist Foundations*, 10(1), 35-37.(2014)

Modes of Explanation: Affordances for Action and Prediction (edited with Abraham Graber) Palgrave MacMillan (2014).

Coherence in the Midst of Complexity: Advances in Social Complexity Theory (with Hugo Letiche and Ron Schultz) Palgrave Macmillan (2011).

“The Coherence Circle: The role of Affordances and Homologies in Organizational Complex Systems” chapter in *Routledge Companion to Organization Change*, Edited by David Boje, Bernard Burnes, John Hassard, (2011)

“Representations and Compressions” chapter in *Complex Socio-Technical Systems: Understanding and Influencing Causality of Change* edited by Rouse, Boff & Sanderson, IOS Press (2011) also appearing in *Information. Knowledge . Systems Management* (2011)

Codes are Not Cues keynote presentation at Workshop on Causality, Understanding and influencing Causality of Change in Socio-Technical Systems, Gold Coast, Australia • February 16-18,(2011)

Resisting Cueless Categories, Blurb, (2010)

“Complexity is more than a Label: A look at Affordances and Homologies,” Keynote Speech at the 2nd International Multi-Conference on Engineering and Technological Innovation: July 10th - 13th, 2009

“Cues, Codes, Complexity, and Confusion: Lessons from Complexity re Productivity and Resilience” *Performance Improvement Quarterly*, Volume 20, Number 2, 64-74 (2007)

“Emergence as Understood via Narrative and Faith,” in *Voices of the Virtual World: Participative Technology and the Ecclesial Revolution* by Len Hjalmarsen, John La Grou, Wikiklesia Press, (2007)

“The Redefinition of Memes: Ascribing Meaning to an Empty Cliché,” *Journal of Memetics - Evolutionary Models of Information Transmission*, 8. (2004)

"Models without Morals: Toward the Ethical Use of Business Models" (with Kurt Richardson) *Emergence*, Volume 5, Number 2, (2003).

"Complexity, Emergence, Resilience, and Coherence: Gaining Perspective on Organizations and their Study" (with Hugo Letiche) *Emergence*, Volume 4, Number 3, (2002).

Management and Complexity: An Interacting Dialogue (editor) Quorum Books, Westport, (2002).

"On the Status of Boundaries, both Natural and Organizational: A Complex Systems Perspective" (with Kurt Richardson) *Emergence*, Volume 3, Number 4, (2001)

"When Modeling Social Systems, Models ≠ the Modeled: Reacting to Wolfram's A New Kind of Science." (with Kurt Richardson) *Emergence*, Volume 3, Number 4, (2001)

"Be Coherent, Not Visionary," (with Johan Roos) *Long Range Planning* (34) 2001.

"Complexity Science: A 'Gray' Science for the 'Stuff in Between'" (with Kurt Richardson and Paul Cilliers) *Emergence*, Volume 3, Number 2, (2001).

The Next Common Sense: The E-Manager's Guide to Mastering Complexity (with Johan Roos), Nicholas Brealey Publishing, London, 2000.

"Knowledge Management Redux: Reframing a Consultancy Fad into a Practical Tool" *Emergence*, Volume 2, Number 3, (2000).

The Next Common Sense (with Johan Roos), Nicholas Brealey Publishers, London, 1999.

Managing Complexity in Organizations: A View in Many Directions (editor, with Hugh Gunz), Quorum Books, Westport, 1999.

"Complexity: the Science, its Vocabulary, and its Relation to Organizations" *Emergence*, Volume 1, Number 1, (1999).

"Concept Sampling: A New Twist for Content Analysis" *Organizational Research Methods*, Volume 1, Number 4, (1998).

"Of Chaos and Complexity: Managerial Insights From A New Science" *Management Decision*, Vol. 35, Number 3, (1997).

"Mind Your Metaphors: Lessons From Complexity Science" *Long Range Planning*, April, (1997).

References

Professor Hugo Letiche
Professor of Care, Complexity and Organisation University of Leicester
School of Management
Room 210, Level 2, Ken Edwards Building University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH, UK
+44 (0)116 223 2790
h.letiche@le.ac.uk
+31-70-358-5383
h.letiche@uvh.nl

Professor Stuart Umpleby
Department of Management, School of Business
The George Washington University 204 Fungler Hall
2201 G Street NW Washington, DC 20052, USA
+1- (202) 534-8802
umpleby@gwu.edu

Dr. Gary Metcalf
Saybrook University
1544 Winchester Ave., Suite 704.
Ashland, KY 41101
+1-606.324.8893
gary.s.metcalf@gmail.com

Rob Wiesenber President
Contegra Systems, Inc.
200 Mamaroneck Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601
Office - 914-328-2269
rjwies@contegrasystems.com
www.contegrasystems.com